

Message Text

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21

ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 RSC-01 IO-10 H-02

CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-02 USIA-15 PRS-01

SP-02 SCCT-01 (ISO) R

DRAFTED BY NEA/P:MHVAN ORDER
APPROVED BY NEA/P:MHVAN ORDER
S/PRS - MR. KING (INFO)
H - MISS FOLGER
IO/P - MR. BLACHLY
EUR/P - MR. JERABEK
NEA/ARN - MR. KORN
AF/P - MRS. RUSSELL

----- 039198

R 270059Z NOV 74
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMCONSUL DHAHRAN
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY MANAMA
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY TUNIS
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY ROME
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USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY SANAA
USINT BAGHDAD

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR
SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING

GENEVA FOR MEPC DEL

FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE FOLLOWING ARE EXCERPTS
FROM DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN'S PRESS BRIEFING NOVEMBER 26,
1974:

QUOTE: MR. HARE: I HAVE ONE ANNOUNCEMENT. THE SECRETARY
OF STATE HAS INVITED THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER
OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF ISRAEL -- YIGAL ALLON -- TO WASHING-
TON, TO
TALKS ON DECEMBER 9 ON MATTERS OF INTEREST TO
BOTH COUNTRIES AND TO EXPLORE FURTHER THE POSSIBILITIES OF
PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST. MINISTER ALLON HAS ACCEPTED THE
INVITATION.

Q. IS THIS GOING TO BE THE FIRST OF A SERIES OF FOREIGN
MINISTERS COMING TO US, AS IT WAS THE LAST TIME?

A. WELL, I WOULDN'T LOOK UPON IT THAT WAY. AS FAR AS I'M
AWARE, THERE ARE NO PRESENT PLANS FOR FURTHER VISITS.

Q. IS THIS A ONE-DAY OFFICIAL VISIT?

A. ONE DAY IN WASHINGTON. I DON'T KNOW IF MR. ALLON IS
GOING TO BE STAYING IN THE COUNTRY LONGER THAN THAT.

Q. WHAT VALUE WILL JUST A ONE-DAY SESSION WITH MR. ALLON
HAVE IF THERE'S NO FOLLOW-UP WITH THE ARAB SIDE?

A. WELL, YOU KNOW, I THINK THAT'S A LITTLE BIT, PERHAPS,
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TOO NARROW A VIEW TO TAKE. WE ARE IN A PERIOD OF QUIET
DIPLOMACY, AND THE VISIT OF MINISTER ALLON HERE WILL BE .
PART OF A CONTINUATION OF OUR EFFORTS TO PROMOTE A PEACE
SETTLEMENT IN THE MIDDLE EAST. I SIMPLY SAID THAT I
WASN'T AWARE OF ANY PLANS FOR OTHER VISITS. BUT THAT, OF
COURSE, DOESN'T PRECLUDE THE NORMAL DIPLOMATIC CONTACTS
THAT WE MAINTAIN.

Q. YOU ARE NOT RULING OUT VISITS BY ARAB LEADERS FOLLOWING ALLON?

A. I'M JUST SAYING THAT AT THIS TIME I'M NOT AWARE OF ANY PRESENT PLANS.

Q. ON THE MIDDLE EAST, WHAT IS THE THRUST THAT THE SECRETARY IS GOING TO TAKE? IS THERE ANY INTENTION TO ENCOURAGE THE ISRAELIS TO NEGOTIATE WITH THE PLO, OR TO ENCOURAGE THE ISRAELIS TO YIELD MORE TERRITORY TO THE ARAB SIDE?

A. I'M SORRY, BUT I'M NOT IN A POSITION TO GET INTO THE SPECIFICS OR THE SUBSTANCE OF WHAT MIGHT BE DISCUSSED.

Q. ON THE MIDDLE EAST, IS THE SECRETARY'S STAGE-BY-STAGE DIPLOMATIC EFFORTS STILL ALIVE OR WHAT? MY LAST CONTACT WITH THIS STORY WAS WHEN WE CAME BACK FROM THE LAST TRIP HE WAS SAYING THE IMPASSE HAD BEEN AVERTED AND THE DOOR WAS STILL OPEN TO STAGE-BY-STAGE NEGOTIATIONS. IS THAT STILL THE CASE?

A. I HAVE NO REASON TO CHANGE THAT ASSESSMENT.

Q. ARE THERE ANY PLANS TO GO ANYWHERE ELSE BUT BRUSSELS ON THE SECRETARY'S NEXT TRIP?

A. WELL, AT THIS POINT -- I'VE BEEN ASKED THIS QUESTION SEVERAL TIMES, SPECIFICALLY WITH RESPECT TO ANKARA; AND I'VE CONSISTENTLY SAID THAT I'M NOT AWARE OF ANY PRESENT PLANS FOR THAT.

Q. CAN YOU BRING US UP TO DATE ON THE TUNISIAN AFFAIR?
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ARE THOSE GUYS UNDER ARREST, AND WHAT ABOUT THE PRISONERS THAT WERE DEMANDED FOR THEIR HOSTAGES? HAVE THEY BEEN RETURNED TO THEIR VARIOUS PRISONS -- FOR INSTANCE, THE KHARTOUM ASSASSINS?

A. WELL, THE KHARTOUM EIGHT WERE NEVER RELEASED.

Q. I SEE.

A. THEY ALWAYS REMAINED IN CAIRO. NOW, YOU PROBABLY ARE REFERRING TO THE ROME FIVE AND TO THE TWO THAT WERE RELEASED BY THE HAGUE.

Q. YES.

A. NO. I DON'T KNOW EXACTLY WHAT THEIR DISPOSITION IS.
AS FAR AS I KNOW, THEY'RE STILL IN THE CUSTODY OF THE
TUNISIAN AUTHORITIES.

Q. AND HOW ABOUT THE TERRORISTS WHO PERFORMED THE HIJACK-
ING OVER THE WEEKEND?

A. THEY ARE ALL IN THE CUSTODY OF THE TUNISIAN AUTHORI-
TIES.

Q. AND ARE THEY GOING TO STAY THERE, HAVE WE LEARNED, OR
WILL THEY BE RETURNED TO THE PLO?

A. I DON'T KNOW WHAT DECISION THE TUNISIANS ARE GOING TO
TAKE ON THIS MATTER. END QUOTE. INGERSOLL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS CONFERENCES, TERRORISTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 NOV 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE261309
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: MHVAN ORDER
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740347-0989
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t1974117/aaaaafjp.tel
Line Count: 185
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN NEA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: ING TO THE ROME FIVE AND TO THE TWO, THAT WERE RELEAS-
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 13 NOV 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <13 NOV 2002 by maustmc>; APPROVED <26 NOV 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING GENEVA FOR MEPC DEL
TAGS: PFOR, (ALLON, YIGAL)
To: AMMAN MULTIPLE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005